

We are citizens of Haddam and are very much in support of SB816. Because we always thought that Connecticut had a fair and equitable system for helping municipalities provide a quality and decent education to their students, we were very surprised to learn that many towns, including Haddam, the **10<sup>th</sup> most underfunded** town in the state, **at 42%**, were funded significantly below what the current formula indicates is the fair share for those towns.

When the Connecticut Yankee Nuclear Power Plant closed, Haddam's Grand List dropped a great deal. For some reason, the formula was never adjusted for this very serious drop in town revenue. In order to ensure that our students get a quality education, the citizens, property owners and businesses in town are required to pay a much higher mill rate than those in the surrounding towns. This circumstance also affects the choices that potential businesses make about where they will set up shop.

It is our understanding that SB816 is the first step in fixing the funding formula for all communities in Connecticut but will most directly impact Haddam.

We urge you to support this first step in an effort to create an equitable educational funding formula all the children of Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Nancy and John Meyers  
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